

MUSEUM NOW OPEN!



1938-2021 **Remembering Helen Rae**

ierra del Sol Gallery reports that Helen Rae, the contemporary artist who broke down barriers in art, age and accessibility died February 12 at age 83. CMA is proud to have featured Helen Rae in our 2019-20 exhibition Vanguard.

Rae was a visual artist who was inspired by couture photography, transformed simple materials of graphite, colored pencil and paper into intricate forms and figures. She grew up in Claremont. Deaf and nonverbal, she learned sign language and other methods of communication, most importantly visual art. At 50 years old, she enrolled in the Tierra Del Sol Studio Art Program, where she discovered her own expressive language.

With the encouragement of her teacher Rebecca Hamm at Tierra Del Sol and the tenacity of The Good Luck Gallery principal Paige Wery, Helen's artistic style transcended traditional naming and she soon became known around the world from gallery shows in New York and Paris to the pages of Vogue Magazine. At 83, she was still in pursuit of the visual imagery that enabled her to break free of the limitations the world tried to impose on her.

Hamm who worked with Helen for 31 years offered this fitting tribute, "Helen inspired hundreds of artists she worked with in the studios and, before that, her early teachers who broadened her world with sign language. Her courageous life, joyful persistence and intensely creative work will live forever."

CLAREMONT MUSEUM OF ART

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Welcome Back! The Museum **Reopens with** an Exciting Year Ahead

e are thrilled to finally reopen and proudly celebrate our special exhibition, *Inside Out: Emerging from* Isolation, with free admission for all.

We look back on 2020 with appreciation for the generosity of our members, donors, and friends. Your contributions far exceeded our expectations, and I want to thank each one of you. Over the past year we had to reimagine how we could make the museum available to our current and new audiences. We achieved greater access by sharing our exhibition, Fall Gala, auction, and art



programs virtually, which more than doubled our online outreach. Project ARTstART, CMA's art education program, quickly adapted lessons and activities to Zoom to stay connected with teachers and students.

INSIDE OUT EXHIBITION NOW ON VIEW 28 Local Artists Reflect on Pandemic Experience



With the Museum now open with safety measures, masks and limited capacity, we welcome you to see the exhibition INSIDE OUT: Emerging from Isolation in person with free admission for all! The exhibition will be on view Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12-4 pm. through May 30.

As all our lives were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, local artists continued their creative work in their homes and studios. Working from inside-physically and psychologically-they expressed and reflected on their experiences through their art. *INSIDE OUT*, generously sponsored by Gould Asset Management LLC, seeks to bring us all out of our long isolation with messages of solace and hope.

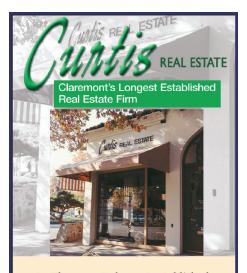
COMING IN JUNE: "LOOK UP", the exhibition, created by ET Projects will showcase the visual splendor of this immersive artwork produced in collaboration with Mt. San Antonio Gardens.

With these significant adjustments, as well as careful management of our resources, including a CARES Act grant, we were able to successfully navigate a challenging year. (continued on page 3)



Making Progress

The City of Claremont's long planned grading and repaving of the north patio brings the entire historic **Claremont Depot to grade level. This** completes the mandated accessibility and seismic retrofitting project funded by Metrolink Prop C funds.



As Claremont's longest established real estate office, generations of local residents have relied on us for our ethical, professional and personal attention to their real estate needs. Founded in 1947, Curtis Real Estate remains a family-owned and operated firm in the heart of the Claremont Village.

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Claremont Museum of Art

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Claremont Museum of Art P.O. Box 1136, Claremont, CA 91711

Reach us at info@claremontmuseum.org or by phone at 909 621-3200 and your call will be returned.

The Claremont Museum of Art is a private, non-profit, tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Our exhibitions and programs are supported by public and private oraanizations as well as many individual donors, members, and volunteers.

Meet Our New Board Members



Iuliet Polk Howland Kane is a lifelong resident of Claremont, and a talented artist. She and her husband Kelly are raising their two young sons, Seth and Eli.

Kane received her BA in Environmental Studies at the University of Southern California, with a minor in Drawing. She attended law school at the University of California Los Angeles, and has worked at the Claremont firm, Buxbaum and Chakmak, first as a project finance attorney and then as an estate planning

attorney. Juliet joined the CMA Board "to support the Claremont artists and to bring art to the community".



Sheri Nagel first lived in Claremont when she attended Scripps College, graduating with a BA in International Relations, and then Claremont Graduate School, completing an MA in Education. She was married to her college sweetheart for 30 years and has been widowed for the last 20 years. Sheri has a daughter Carrie and a grandchild Damien age 16.

She worked for 39 years at the Central School District in Rancho Cucamonga, where she succeeded in several roles, progressing from a 7th grade teacher to Superintendent.

Relocating to Claremont in 2005, Sheri has volunteered for the Claremont Committee on Aging, as well as serving on the Boards of Mt. San Antonio Gardens, Claremont Heritage, Joan Macy School, Children's Foundation of America, and the Foothill Philharmonic Committee. She is currently on the Claremont Unified Citizens' Oversight Committee, and the Claremont High School WASC team.

Sheri is thrilled to the support the Claremont Museum of Art and looks forward to serving on the board. She is especially interested in the exciting work being done with the ARTstART program.



Christopher N. Oberg and his wife Carol have been longtime Claremont residents and have two grown children.



Currently he is the Executive VP and CFO at the WASC Senior College and University Commission. He received his BA in philosophy from the University of California, San Diego, and his PhD in education and philosophy, with an emphasis on higher education, from CGU.

Christopher was attracted to join the CMA Board "because of the commitment of the current directors, the wealth that can be gained by having a vibrant arts community exhibiting regularly, and the rare nature of the Claremont artistic community, whose history and present should be celebrated."

www.claremontmuseum.org

Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter Follow our Virtual Studio Tour to visit local artists and watch for fun art activity ideas from Project ARTstART.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

Our path for 2021 is filled with anticipation as we look ahead, remaining true to our mission while evolving, growing and seeking meaningful ways to engage with the community. In the coming months CMA will:

• Continue our arts education program in all Claremont elementary schools, providing innovative art lessons and art making videos for students and their families on our YouTube channel, and return to classroom instruction as soon as it is possible.

• Launch a campaign to complete the renovation of the two eastern rooms of the historic Depot into galleries - new spaces for art, programs, and civic connections; and glass-in the west portico for a larger gift shop and other community activities.

• Present the summer exhibition: Elizabeth Turk's "Look Up"; an immersive work with spectacular aerial footage of movement patterns by the residents of Mt. San Antonio Gardens carrying brightly colored umbrellas, revealing a message of hope, unity, resilience and optimism.

• Mount two additional exciting exhibitions: *Furious Garden* will dynamically pivot new paintings by Karen Kitchel, Deena Capparelli and ceramic sculptures by Cj Jilek to focus on the extraordinary power and beauty of natural flora. We will finish the year with a dramatic exhibition of work by John Frame from The Lyric Opera of Chicago's 2018 staging of "Faust."

• Host our annual Gala on Saturday, September 18, under festive tents on the Depot front lawn.

• Plan the return of the ever popular Padua Hills Art Fiesta on Sunday, November 4.

Our success is a reflection of your confidence and investment in our future. We couldn't have done it without you, and we are most grateful. Once again, we look forward to seeing you at the Museum.

- Elaine Turner, President

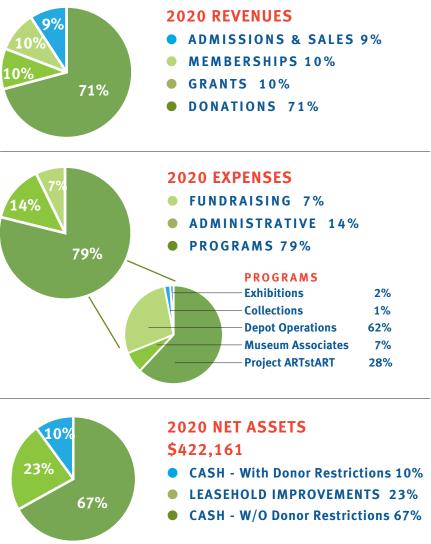
Exhibiton Open! FREE ADMISSION Through May 30

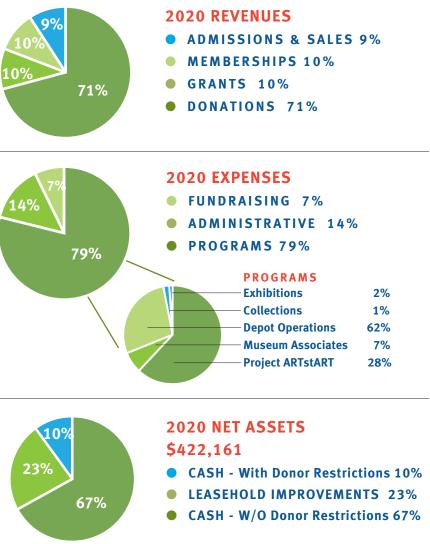
Museum Hours Friday/Saturday/Sunday 12 – 4pm

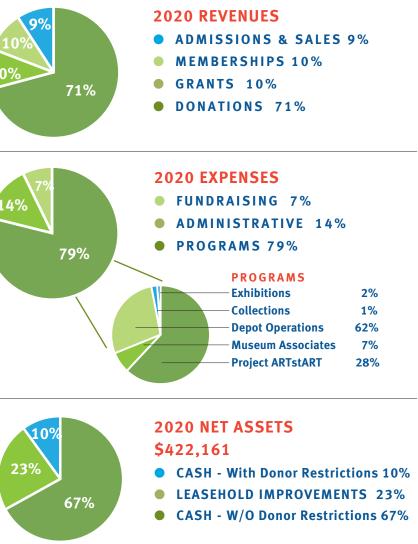
ArtWalk First Saturday 6 – 9pm

TREASURER'S REPORT CMA Adjusts and is Prepared for a Strong Future

– Rae Rottman, Treasurer







he Claremont Museum of Art generated \$235,844 in revenue in 2020, down 35% from last year, a result of the restrictions in place to contain COVID-19 that required the closing of the museum, the cancellation of the Padua Hills Art Fiesta, Artful Evenings and the transition of our annual Fall Gala from an in-person event to a virtual event.

The Board made strategic decisions to continue our arts education program, Project ARTstART, through virtual programming, maintain employment of our museum associates even with the museum closed and to utilize social media for exhibition and art making access. Additionally, the Board curtailed certain initiatives which reduced 2020 expenses to \$206,887, allowing for an increase in net assets of \$28,957. Thanks to the generosity of our members and donors, who stepped up and more than doubled the amount of donations budgeted for the year, and the Board's proactive cost containment measures, CMA has weathered this extraordinary year and is in a position to resume and expand museum offerings in 2021.